

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1056
ANSWERED ON 27.06.2019

WATER CONSERVATION

†1056. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering/proposes any concrete steps to promote water conservation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the continuous depletion of groundwater level and the vanishing ancient ponds, step wells and tube wells; and
- (d) if so, the concrete steps taken by the Government for the deepening and restoration of these Water Bodies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) Water being a State subject, concrete steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources to ensure sustainability are undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government, the steps taken by the Government of India for conservation of water are as under:

- Hon'ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all Sarpanchs regarding the importance of water conservation and harvesting and exhorted them to adopt all appropriate measures to make water conservation a mass movement.
- The National Water Policy (2012) formulated by Ministry of Water Resources advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The Policy has been forwarded to all States/UTs concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government for adoption.
- In compliance to the decision taken by the Committee of Secretaries, an 'Inter-Ministerial Committee' under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has been constituted to take forward the subject of 'Push on Water Conservation Related Activities for Optimum Utilization of Monsoon Rainfall'.

- The Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill.
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3 (3) of the “Environment (Protection) Act, 1986” for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. CGWA has issued directives to the Chief Secretaries of all States as well as Administrators of all UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rain water harvesting.
- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) regularly undertakes training programs and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities for capacity building and awareness creation of stakeholders on the importance of water conservation and rainwater harvesting in augmenting the ground water resources.
- Best practices of water conservation by various entities including private persons, NGOs, PSUs etc have been compiled and put on the web site of the Ministry for the benefit of general public.
- Implementation of National Water Mission (NWM) is one of the steps being taken to promote water conservation. The main objective of NWM is “conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management”. NWM has been undertaking training and mass awareness programmes on water conservation.

(c) & (d) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out ground water monitoring, on regional scale through a network of observation wells in the Country. In order to assess the declining/rising trend in water level on a long-term basis, pre-monsoon water level data 2018 has been compared with the decadal average (2008-2017) water level. Analysis of data indicates decline in ground water level in about 52% of the wells and rise in 48% wells being monitored. The State-wise details are **annexed**.

As per the report of 5th Census of Minor Irrigation Schemes with reference year 2013-14, available in the website (<http://mowr.gov.in>) of Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, out of about 21 million total wells in the country about, 2.6 lakhs wells are permanently not in use for various reasons like salinity, dried up, destroyed beyond repair, sea water intrusion, etc.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Unstarred Question No. †1056 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 27.06.2019 regarding “WATER CONSERVATION”

State-wise Decadal Water Level Fluctuation with Mean [Premonsoon (2008 to 2017) and Premonsoon 2018] (Source: CGWB)

S. No.	Name of State	No. of wells Analysed	Range in m				Rise						Fall						Rise		Fall		Wells showing no change	
			Rise		Fall		0-2 m		2-4 m		>4 m		0-2 m		2-4 m		>4 m							
			Min	Max	Min	Max	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
1	Andhra Pradesh	714	0.01	13.54	0	16.37	234	32.8	39	5.5	17	2.4	317	44.4	69	9.7	37	5.2	290	41	423	59	1	0.1
2	Arunachal Pradesh	8	1.1	1.01	0.03	0.97	3	37.5	1	12.5	1	12.5	3	37.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	63	3	38	0	0.0
3	Assam	154	0.02	7.67	0.01	7.39	78	50.6	16	10.4	4	2.6	51	33.1	2	1.3	3	1.9	98	64	56	36	0	0.0
4	Bihar	619	0.01	5.3	0.01	7.99	243	39.3	23	3.7	2	0.3	298	48.1	36	5.8	16	2.6	268	43	350	57	1	0.2
5	Chandigarh	9	1.72	5.44	0.17	5.7	1	11.1	0	0.0	1	11.1	4	44.4	2	22.2	1	11.1	2	22	7	78	0	0.0
6	Chhattisgarh	458	0.03	10.68	0.01	13.23	122	26.6	33	7.2	26	5.7	213	46.5	37	8.1	21	4.6	181	40	271	59	6	1.3
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	17	0.54	6.12	0.06	6.94	3	17.6	3	17.6	2	11.8	6	35.3	1	5.9	2	11.8	8	47	9	53	0	0.0
8	Daman & Diu	10	0.03	2.81	0.01	4.12	4	40.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	3	30.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	5	50	5	50	0	0.0
9	Delhi	82	0.41	12.97	0.14	13.8	14	17.1	4	4.9	2	2.4	21	25.6	23	28.0	18	22.0	20	24	62	76	0	0.0
10	Goa	70	0	2.44	0.02	5.01	47	67.1	3	4.3	0	0.0	19	27.1	0	0.0	1	1.4	50	71	20	29	0	0.0
11	Gujarat	756	0.01	13	0.01	18.47	238	31.5	65	8.6	42	5.6	251	33.2	80	10.6	70	9.3	345	46	401	53	10	1.3
12	Haryana	273	0.01	15.43	0.05	14.63	57	20.9	6	2.2	5	1.8	122	44.7	47	17.2	36	13.2	68	25	205	75	0	0.0
13	Himachal Pradesh	86	0.15	6.04	0.01	4.35	16	18.6	3	3.5	2	2.3	57	66.3	6	7.0	2	2.3	21	24	65	76	0	0.0
14	Jammu & Kashmir	244	0.01	10.17	0.01	17.69	39	16.0	3	1.2	5	2.0	140	57.4	46	18.9	11	4.5	47	19	197	81	0	0.0
15	Jharkhand	255	0.01	5.18	0.02	5.53	143	56.1	21	8.2	4	1.6	73	28.6	10	3.9	4	1.6	168	66	87	34	0	0.0
16	Karnataka	1343	0.01	18.64	0.0	19.16	553	41.2	156	11.6	83	6.2	377	28.1	113	8.4	52	3.9	792	59	542	40	9	0.7
17	Kerala	1431	0.0	13.37	0.0	13.78	727	50.8	29	2.0	17	1.2	594	41.5	43	3.0	17	1.2	773	54	654	46	4	0.3
18	Madhya Pradesh	1330	0.01	17.31	0.01	12.19	360	27.1	128	9.6	58	4.4	552	41.5	151	11.4	79	5.9	546	41	782	59	2	0.2
19	Maharashtra	1632	0.0	15.27	0.0	14.6	522	32.0	151	9.3	101	6.2	581	35.6	185	11.3	91	5.6	774	47	857	53	1	0.1
20	Meghalaya	22	0.12	3.02	0.01	1.45	8	36.4	1	4.5	0	0.0	13	59.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	41	13	59	0	0.0
21	Odisha	1254	0.01	6.34	0.01	5.95	621	49.5	120	9.6	25	2.0	419	33.4	54	4.3	12	1.0	766	61	485	39	3	0.2
22	Pondicherry	5	0.07	1.15	0.36	0.51	3	60.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	60	2	40	0	0.0
23	Punjab	216	0.0	14.14	0.02	12.77	28	13.0	3	1.4	4	1.9	105	48.6	38	17.6	38	17.6	35	16	181	84	0	0.0
24	Rajasthan	929	0.0	17.01	0.01	18.39	265	28.5	113	12.2	96	10.3	220	23.7	94	10.1	140	15.1	474	51	454	49	1	0.1
25	Tamil Nadu	528	0.0	12.98	0.01	13.6	137	25.9	48	9.1	24	4.5	189	35.8	73	13.8	56	10.6	209	40	318	60	1	0.2
26	Telangana	568	0.01	17.67	0.02	17.61	168	29.6	75	13.2	52	9.2	175	30.8	53	9.3	40	7.0	295	52	268	47	5	0.9
27	Tripura	25	0.12	2.49	0.54	4.96	20	80.0	1	4.0	0	0.0	2	8.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	21	84	4	16	0	0.0
28	Uttar Pradesh	563	0.01	14.53	0.01	14.29	81	14.4	11	2.0	5	0.9	358	63.6	74	13.1	34	6.0	97	17	466	83	0	0.0
29	Uttarakhand	28	0.14	6.83	0.05	11.13	5	17.9	1	3.6	2	7.1	14	50.0	4	14.3	2	7.1	8	29	20	71	0	0.0
30	West Bengal	614	0.01	12.46	0.01	12.92	306	49.8	74	12.1	28	4.6	145	23.6	40	6.5	20	3.3	408	66	205	33	1	0.2
Total		14243					5046	35.4	1132	7.9	608	4.3	5324	37.4	1283	9.0	805	5.7	6786	48	7412	52	45	0.3